

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR OCTOBER 1947

[The table hereunder contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Beaches, Fernandina to New Smyrna, Fla.	Oct. 1947 Sept. 26- Oct. 6				\$5,000,000	"Northeaster," with high tides.	A prolonged period of northeast winds, occasionally strong, caused abnormally high tides and heavy surf; washed out seawalls, carried away beach sand, and undermined houses causing them to collapse. Estimated that \$4,000,000 of total damage occurred in September and \$1,000,000 in October. Report of September damage made in the "Florida Climatological Data for September."
Shawnee Co., Kans.	3	6 p. m.	33	0	500	Tornado	An incipient vortex cloud seen from the Boys' Industrial School, Topeka; evidently developed and reached ground at Stroud home $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles to northeast, where vortex cloud was plainly seen. Large hay barn roof blown off and 1 or 2 small buildings damaged. A few trees damaged.
Denver, Colo.	7	5 p. m.		1		Electrical	Lightning struck tree, glancing off to hit girl.
Jacksonville, Fla.	7	8:15 p. m.	150 to 50	0	100,000	Tornado during thunderstorm.	Storm path $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long; moved northward. Unroofed several houses, uprooted and broke trees, upset automobiles, and wrecked a trailer village. 10 persons injured, none critically.
Green Cove Springs, Fla.	7	7:30 p. m.		0		Tornado	Small tornado struck a trailer village and did considerable damage.
Levelland, Hockley Co., Tex.	8	3:15 p. m.	16		1,800,000	Hail	\$1,000,000 damage to buildings and automobiles; \$750,000 damage to crops; \$50,000 damage to livestock.
South Dakota, western portion.	10			0		Forest fire	Forest fire, 10 miles south of Deadwood, burnt over 2,000 to 3,000 acres.
Off Cape Maysl, Cuba	11	9 a. m. E. S. T.		0		Waterspout	Spout moved slowly westward and appeared to move out from underneath itself at the water's surface before disintegrating; under observation for 14 minutes.
Miami and vicinity, Fla.	11-12	Night of 11 to morning of 12		0		Tornadoes	Several tornadoes, in connection with passage of tropical storm, did considerable damage to roofs.
Tornillo, El Paso Co., Tex.	13	Afternoon		0	100,000	Hail and tornado	Principal damage to cotton and alfalfa. 1 barn roof blown off.
Leoti, Wichita Co., Kans.	14	3:30 p. m.			500	Heavy hail	Covered only a few square miles.
South Carolina, southern portion.	15	12 a. m. to 12 noon.		1	185,000	Winds and high tides.	Strong gales prevailed along the coast, especially from Charleston area southward, due to tropical storm moving inland near Savannah, Ga.; strongest wind at Charleston, 54 m. p. h., at 3:55 a. m.; Parris Island reported gusts to 65 m. p. h., at 4:30 a. m. Tides on lower coast ranged from 12 feet above mean low at Parris Island to 9 feet above at Charleston. \$150,000 damage to crops. Man killed by falling tree at Charleston.
Chatham Co., coastal area, Savannah Beach, Ga.	15	6 a. m.			2,000,000	Hurricane	Wind velocities estimated at more than 100 m. p. h. on coast, gusts as high as 95 at Savannah. Damage consisted of some structures demolished or practically so; many roofs blown off or badly damaged; windowpanes and plate glass windows blown out in every section; many trees blown down or delimbed, with resultant damage in communication lines or to nearby structures. 1,500 or more buildings substantially damaged, 100 of which were business houses. Damage to Savannah Beach almost \$1,000,000, with heavy damage in city of Savannah. Damages to crops, chiefly pecan trees, probably as great as \$100,000. Storm rapidly lost intensity as it moved inland, with damage almost wholly limited to section between Savannah and Brunswick not more than 50 miles from coast; losses in this area appear to be less than \$250,000, mostly to timber, communication lines, roads, and bridges.
Abilene, Taylor Co., Tex.	15	6:40 p. m.	13		35,000	Hail	Principal damage to buildings and livestock.
Shawnee, Pottawatomie Co., Okla.	17	6:30 p. m.			2,000	Electrical and high wind.	Electric power disrupted; a few chicken houses and cow barns blown over; some trees blown down.
Galax, Va.	17-18	7 p. m. to shortly after midnight.			250,000	Flash flood	Chestnut Creek out of banks. Furniture factories lost expensive lumber. A milk cannery's boiler room submerged, resulting in loss of great quantity of milk on hand and spoilage of 3 days' supply already contracted for. 7 houses carried away; occupants of 150 other homes forced to leave. City's water supply system became inoperative.
Montgomery Co., Tenn.	18	2:15 a. m.			4,500	Electrical	Damage from fires set by lightning.
Montgomery Co., Tenn.	18	6:00 a. m.			800	do.	1 barn and contents burned.
Fairview, Major Co., Okla.	22	8 p. m.			3,000	do.	1 barn with 800 bales alfalfa hay burned after being struck by lightning.
Garnett and Anderson Cos., Kans.	23	Evening	12		3,500	High winds and hail.	Storm from southwest; path 100 yards long. A number of small farm buildings damaged. Some evidence of a tornado.
Munday, Knox Co., Tex.	24	7:40 a. m.			4,000	Hail and electrical	Principal damage to cotton. 1 person injured by lightning.
Galax, Va.	25	3-4 a. m.				Heavy rains and flooding.	Chestnut Creek again out of banks. About 100 families forced to evacuate their homes. City's water supply system inoperative. 4 furniture plants closed because of unavailability of water.
Coleman, Tex.	25	Afternoon			10,000	Hail	Damage to cotton, late feed, roofs, and windows.
Junction, Kimble Co., Tex.	25	5 p. m.	13		24,000	Hail and wind	Principal damage by hail to roofs and windows.
Jacksonville to Rusk, Cherokee Co., Tex.	26	Afternoon	14		305,000	do.	Principal damage to buildings and automobiles.

¹ Miles instead of yards.

LATE¹ STORM REPORTS FOR JULY-SEPTEMBER 1947

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Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Mexico and vicinity Audrain Co., Mo.	July 5	Afternoon				High wind, hail, and electrical.	Storm from northwest blew down trees and wires, and damaged farm buildings. Some damage occurred to oat, wheat, and corn crops. Hailstones $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter.
Eldon, Miller Co., Mo.	5	6 a. m.		1		Electrical	A minister killed when lightning struck tent pole at a religious camp meeting. 3 women in another tent shocked, but not seriously injured.
Fulton, Callaway Co., Mo.	28	6-9 a. m. and afternoon.				High wind and electrical.	Storm from northwest damaged trees, wires, and porches; lightning struck a home and 2 barns, resulting in destruction of 1 barn and contents of hay, feed, farming implements, and harness. During afternoon lightning struck another barn, burning it to ground; loss of contents of hay, feed, farm equipment, and harness, and several head of livestock.
Gerald and Stanton, Franklin Co., Mo.	28	7-8 a. m.	110	1	2,000	High wind	Storm from north over a strip 20 miles long. Fruit trees stripped of 25 percent of fruits; some trees uprooted, and roofs damaged. Damage to fruit not known. 1 death caused by falling tree.
Iowa, south-central portion	August 25	Early morning.				Electrical, wind and rain.	Local damage from wind and lightning. Light plant at Winterset, Madison Co., flooded. Many cornfields knocked down by wind. In Des Moines, electric power off for several hours. 500 telephones out of order.
Sanborn, O'Brien Co., Iowa	27	Evening	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -2			Hail	Hailstones, larger than a quarter, stripped area 9 miles long.
Charles City, Floyd Co., Iowa	28	9 p. m.			40,000	Electrical	Lightning struck dairy farm, resulting in fire; loss of building and much livestock.
Hampton, Franklin Co., Iowa	29	Early morning.				Heavy hail	Hail ranged up to 1 inch in diameter.
Navajo Co., Ariz.	Sept. 2				5,000	Flash floods	Shoulders and bridges of highway U. S. 66 damaged.
Leon, Decatur Co., Iowa	3	4:30 a. m.				Wind	Winds of near tornadic velocity damaged 1 business building, high school, and many homes. Strong winds only lasted several minutes.
Charles City, Floyd Co., Iowa	9	Evening			5,000	Wind	Storm one of the worst in recent years; 48 m. p. h. wind for 5-minute interval. Funnel-shaped cloud observed, but rotary winds did not reach ground. Main damage to farms near city limits; windows broken and many trees blown over in city.
Des Moines, Iowa	11	8 p. m.			150,000	Electrical	Lightning struck Iowa Pipe & Tile Co., causing fire and complete loss of building.
Safford-Bowie Junction, Graham Co., Ariz.	20				1,700	Heavy rains	Bank protection and cut-off walls on Douglas-Safford Highway, near Artesia damaged.